

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207951

E.O. 11652: XGDS(1 AND 3) DECLASSIFIED ON 12/31/89

TAGS: BEXP, MASS, NATO, MILI

SUBJECT:NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING (AEW) SYSTEM

REF: US NATO 4632 DTG 281830Z AUG 74

1. APPROVAL IS GRANTED FOR THE RELEASE OF YOUR TEXT
ON THE GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF AEW ACTIVITIES WITHIN NATO
AND RELATED PROBLEMS (REF MESSAGE) TO THE ASSISTANT
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SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT PROVIDED THE
SUBSTITUTIONS/ADDITIONS LISTED BELOW ARE INCORPORATED.
PORTIONS OF THE TEXT NOT DISCUSSED MAY BE RELEASED AS IS.

2. REF YOUR PARA A. DELETE OPENING PARAGRAPH IN ITS ENTIRETY AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING QUOTE THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK AT HAND IS TO DEVELOP AND JUSTIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR A NATO AEW SYSTEM FROM CONSIDERATIONS OF THE THREAT AND DEFICIENCIES IN EXISTING NATO CAPABILITIES. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED BELOW SHOULD BE CONSIDERED MINIMUM ESSENTIAL FOR ANY NATO AEW SYSTEM. NO SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE RELATIVE ORDERING OF THESE CRITICAL NEEDS SINCE WE BELIEVE SHAPE SHOULD ASSIGN RELATIVE PRIORITIES UNQUOTE.

3. A.1. AFTER TITLE LOW-LEVEL COVERAGE CHANGE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ QUOTE THERE IS AN OBVIOUS AND RECOGNIZED REQUIREMENT TO FILL THE CAPS IN LOW-LEVEL COVERAGE OF THE NADGE SYSTEM UNQUOTE. REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH IS OK.

4. PARA A.2. AFTER TITLE MARITIME CHANGE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ QUOTE A REQUIREMENT EXISTS FOR THE DETECTION AND SURVEILLANCE OF BOTH AIRBORNE AND SURFACE TARGETS IN MARITIME REGIONS UNQUOTE. DELETE YOUR SECOND SENTENCE SINCE THIS CAPABILITY IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO THE USA. REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH IS OK.

5. PARA A.4. AFTER TITLE NADGE BACKUP, FIRST SENTENCE IS OK BUT CHANGE SECOND SENTENCE TO READ QUOTE AN AIRBORNE RADAR PROVIDES BACKUP SENSOR CAPABILITY AND COULD PROVIDE BACKUP CONTROL CAPABILITY AT SOME YET TO BE DETERMINED ADDITIONAL COST DEPENDING UPON CONFIGURATION SELECTED UNQUOTE.

6. PARA A.7. DELETE TITLE COMMAND AND CONTROL FOR OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS AND SUBSTITUTE TITLE QUOTE SURVEILLANCE SUPPORT FOR OFFENSIVE AIR OPERATIONS UNQUOTE. REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH IS OK.

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7. PARA B.1. AFTER TITLE COVERAGE AND AVAILABILITY CHANGE FIRST SENTENCE TO READ QUOTE THE MORE DETAILS WHICH CAN BE PROVIDED ON THE SIZE AND LOCATION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA TO BE COVERED (INCLUDING MARITIME REGIONS) AND PERCENTAGE OF SYSTEM AVAILABILITY REQUIRED OVER THESE AREAS, THE BETTER UNQUOTE. REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH IS OK.

8. PARA B.3. CHANGE THE SUBPARAGRAPH WHICH FOLLOWS THE LIST OF MINIMUM ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (A) THROUGH (Z) TO READ AS FOLLOWS QUOTE THIS REQUIREMENT SHOULD BE RELATED TO A GEOGRAPHICAL AREA RATHER THAN AN ORBIT BECAUSE THE AREA OF SURVEILLANCE WILL VARY WITH

THE DIFFERENT CANDIDATE SYSTEMS (THE E-2C, AWACS E-3A, AND NIMROD WITH E-2C RADAR) BEING EXAMINED BY NAFAG SUBGROUP-12. ALSO IT SHOULD LEAVE AS MUCH LATITUDE AS POSSIBLE FOR THE TECHNICAL GROUPS TO EXPERIMENT WITH IDEAS SUCH AS SECTOR BLANKING. THE PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS LISTED ABOVE ARE URGENTLY NEEDED BY THE NATO AWACS SPECIAL TASK GROUP (STG), THE SHAPE TECHNICAL CENTER (STC), AND SG-12 TO DETERMINE THE REQUIRED PERFORMANCE AND CONFIGURATIONS OF ANY PARTICULAR CANDIDATE SYSTEM

AND TO ASSESS THE RELATIVE CAPABILITIES AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE THREE CANDIDATES. IT MAY ALSO PRECLUDE THE TECHNICAL GROUPS FROM INVENTING THEIR OWN REQUIREMENTS. THE STG'S CONFIGURATION STUDIES ARE AN IMPORTANT INPUT TO THEIR COSTING STUDIES UNQUOTE.

9. PARA B.5 CHANGE PARAGRAPH TO READ AS FOLLOWS QUOTE EARLIER THOUGHTS ON THIS SUBJECT WERE THAT THE NATO AEW FORCE WOULD BE PROCURED BY EITHER COMMON OR MULTINATIONAL FUNDING AND PLACED UNDER SACEUR'S OPERATIONAL CONTROL (POSSIBLY WITH USAF PILOT, COPILOT, FLIGHT ENGINEER, AND REQUIRED AIRBORN MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS BUT WITH INTERNATIONAL CREWS MANNING THE CONSOLES -- ASSUMING LANGUAGE AND CREW COORDINATION PROBLEMS WERE MINIMAL). O AND M WOULD COME OUT OF THE MILITARY BUDGET AND COULD POSSIBLY BE PERFORMED BY A SINGLE COUNTRY UNDER CONTRACT. HOWEVER, THERE ARE VARIOUS OTHER ALTERNATIVES. OUR RATIONALIZATION MATRIX SUGGESTED THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE USA MIGHT OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE NATO AWACS FORCE IN RETURN FOR ALLIED ACCEPTANCE OF OTHER APPROPRIATE TASKS. THE UK HAS SHOWN CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN PROCURING THE AWACS AND WE BELIEVE AN UNDISCLOSED FORCE STRUCTURE WOULD BE COMMITTED TO NATO. OF COURSE THE PROJECT WILL UNDERGO AN INTENSIVE DEFENSE REVIEW PRIOR TO ANY POSSIBLE APPROVAL UNQUOTE. CONTINUE ON WITH REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH B.5. STARTING WITH SENTENCE WHICH BEGINS QUOTE PERHAPS ALL OF THE REMAINING NATIONS UNQUOTE.

10. PARA C.1. PARAGRAPH IS OK TO END OF FOURTH SENTENCE (WHICH DISCUSSES DEEP LOOK SURVEILLANCE). FOLLOWING FOURTH SENTENCE, ADD THE FOLLOWING QUOTE SPECIAL EMPHASIS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEEP LOOK SURVEILLANCE. MORE THAN ANY OTHER APPLICATION, THIS CAPABILITY IS VERY VALUABLE, SINCE BY DENYING THE ABILITY FOR SURPRISE ATTACK, THE WARSAW PACT FORCES MAY WELL BE DETERRED FROM TAKING HOSTILE INITIATIVES. SURVIVABILITY, DISCUSSED IN PARA C.3. BELOW, MAY BE LESS RELEVANT IF DETERRENCE (ACHIEVED BY THE DEEP LOOK CAPABILITY) IS MAINTAINED UNQUOTE. REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH STARTING WITH QUOTE

IN OTHER CASES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE UNQUOTE IS OK.

11. PARA C.4 DELETE SENTENCE AT THE END OF PARAGRAPH STARTING WITH THE WORDS QUOTE TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND ADVICE UNQUOTE. ADD THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES QUOTE THE EXCHANGE OF DATA ON INTERFACE REQUIREMENTS BETWEEN HQ SHAPE, THE NATO AWACS STG, AND THE STC IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THREE-WAY BENEFITS. WHILE THIS PROCESS OF DATA

EXCHANGE HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT LIMITED IN THE PAST, IT IS IMPROVING. WE WELCOME THE SUPPORT OF THE ASG (DEFENSE SUPPORT) IN STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE AND VALUE OF A MORE ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THESE GROUPS UNQUOTE.

12. PARA D.1.A. AFTER TITLE CONFIGURATION FIRST SENTENCE IS OK. DELETE SECOND SENTENCE STARTING WITH WORDS QUOTE THE WORKING GROUP UNQUOTE AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING QUOTE THE WORKING GROUP HAS CHOSEN TO ATTACK CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PROBLEM OF IDENTIFYING THE SPECIFIC CONFIGURATION NECESSARY TO MEET ALL NATO REQUIREMENTS FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF SEPARATELY CONSIDERING AND SPECIFYING CAPABILITIES FOR EACH MAJOR SUBSYSTEM. IN ADDITION ALTERNATIVE DISCRETE AWACS CONFIGURATIONS HAVE BEEN SEPARATELY IDENTIFIED AND INVESTIGATED. IT IS PLANNED THAT SUFFICIENT DATA WILL BE GENERATED BY THE STG TO ALLOW IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT, AND COSTING OF VARIATIONS FROM THESE DISCRETE CONFIGURATIONS IN A STRAIGHT FORWARD MANNER UNQUOTE. THEN CONTINUE ON WITH REMAINDER OF PARAGRAPH D.1.A STARTING WITH SENTENCE WHICH BEGINS WITH WORDS QUOTE AC/224 (STG-WG/1WP/1) IS ITS FIRST UNQUOTE.

13. PARA D.1.B. AFTER TITLE GROUND INTERFACE DELETE PRESENT PARAGRAPH IN ITS ENTIRETY SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING QUOTE GROUND INTERFACE REQUIREMENTS ARE CURRENTLY BEING ADDRESSED BY BOTH THE STC AND STG WORKING GROUPS AND SHOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO SUPPORT A SPRING 75 CNAD DECISION. SOME DUPLICATION OF EFFORT IS POSSIBLE, AND FOLLOW-ON WORK CONCERNING INTERFACE REQUIREMENTS, OPTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS WILL PROBABLY BE REQUIRED. CURRENTLY, WG-1 HAS CIRCULATED A DRAFT FINAL REPORT THAT DEFINES WHAT DIFFERENT AWACS CONFIGURATIONS NEED TO INTERFACE WITH THE SEVERAL GROUND AND FLEET ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS. WG-2 WILL BEGIN ITS INTERFACE COSTING TASKS ON OR ABOUT 1 OCT 74. STC SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN THESE EFFORTS WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL, ESPECIALLY AS STC'S EXPERTISE WILL BE REQUIRED FOR SUBSEQUENT INTERFACE EFFORT AFTER THE STG HAS COMPLETED ITS WORK IN MID-75.

14. PARA D.2.A. PARAGRAPH OK THROUGH END OF THIRD SENTENCE (ENDING WITH WORDS QUOTE ARE ADDED OR DELETED UNQUOTE). INSERT THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIRD SENTENCE QUOTE WHILE COST ESTIMATES IN ADVANCE OF NEGOTIATIONS (AND SOMETIMES AFTER NEGOTIATIONS) ARE ALWAYS SUBJECT TO REFINEMENT, THE ACCURACY OF THE ESTIMATES BEING DERIVED BY WORKING GROUP II (WG-2) OF THE

NATO AWACS STG SHOULD BE ADEQUATE TO FURNISH A BASIS FOR NATO DECISION MAKING. WG-2 IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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DERIVING SCHEDULE INFORMATION. ALTHOUGH THE SCHEDULE SHOULD RIGHTFULLY BE DRIVEN BY A SHAPE-DERIVED INITIAL OPERATING CAPABILITY (IOC), THE EARLIEST AVAILABILITY OF THE EQUIPMENT AND DECISION DATES WILL BE DERIVED BY WG-2 IN ORDER TO AVOID COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH BREAKS IN THE AWACS PRODUCTION LINE UNQUOTE. CONTINUE ON WITH REMAINDER OF ORIGINAL PARAGRAPH (STARTING WITH WORDS QUOTE WG-2 WILL ALSO TRY TO ESTIMATE THE 5-YEAR UNQUOTE).

15. PARA D.2.B. CHANGE FIRST SENTENCE TO: THE GROUPS SECOND TASK IS TO IDENTIFY AND INVESTIGATE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CO-PRODUCING COMPONENTS AND SUBSYSTEMS FOR ANY NATO BUY AMONG THE ALLIES.

16. REF THE PARAGRAPH ENTITLED NAFAG SUBGROUP-12 ETC. THIS WAS IDENTIFIED AS PARA F IN MESSAGE RECEIVED HERE. WE ASSUME THIS SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED AS PARA E, AND REMAINING PARAGRAPHS REDESIGNATED ACCORDINGLY. PARAGRAPH NEEDING REVISION STARTS WITH WORDS QUOTE ORIGINALLY THIS GROUP WAS FORMED UNQUOTE. DELETE SIXTH SENTENCE BEGINNING QUOTE A WIDE RIFT UNQUOTE AND SUBSTITUTE QUOTE IN SG-12 A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION DEVELOPED BETWEEN ONE GROUP (CONSISTING OF FRANCE, FRG, UK, AND THE USA) AND SOME OF THE SMALLER NATIONS. THE FOUR POWER GROUP WANTED TO RECOMMEND THE AWACS WHILE THE POSITION OF THE SMALLER COUNTRIES IS BASICALLY AS FOLLOWS UNQUOTE. CONTINUE ON WITH REMAINDER OF YOUR ORIGINAL PARAGRAPH.

17. REF THE SECOND MAIN PARAGRAPH UNDER ASSUMED PARA E ABOVE. PARAGRAPH NEEDING REVISION STARTS WITH WORDS QUOTE FACED WITH THIS IMPASSE UNQUOTE. ADD THE FOLLOWING TEXT TO THE END OF YOUR PRESENT PARAGRAPH QUOTE WE BELIEVE THE UK NOW SUPPORTS THE E-3A AWACS AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE OF THE THREE CANDIDATES BEING EXAMINED BY SG-12. THE UK IS CONTINUING TO PURSUE A NATIONAL CANDIDATE AS A HEDGE AGAINST THE USA FAILING TO PROCEED INTO PRODUCTION WITH THE E-3A. RELATIVE TO THE FUNDAMENTAL DILEMMA PRESENTED BY THE E-3A AND THE E-2C

(BOTH MANUFACTURED IN THE USA), IT IS POSSIBLE TO
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PRESENT A SIMPLE COST-PER-UNIT-COVERAGE ARGUMENT WHICH
FAVORS THE E-3A OVER THE E-2C. ADDITIONAL FACTORS PER-
TAINING TO OVERLAND DETECTION PERFORMANCE, ECM RESISTI-
VITY, MOBILITY, AND VERSATILITY ADD FURTHER JUSTIFICATION;
ALL THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN FACT FORM THE BASIS FOR SECDEF

SELECTION OF THE E-3A AS OUR PREFERRED SINGLE CANDIDATE
FOR THE NATO AEW SYSTEM. THE EMBRYONIC STAGE OF DEVELOP-
MENT FOR THE UK ALTERNATIVE(S) MAY VERY WELL PRECLUDE
THIS FROM BEING CONSIDERED AS SERIOUS COMPETITION.
WE BELIEVE THE UK HAS ALREADY ARRIVED AT THIS CONCLUSION.
SOME OF THOSE CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH THE SG-12 STUDIES ARE
OPTIMISTIC THAT SG-12 WILL BE ABLE TO ASSEMBLE THE
DATA NECESSARY TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE ALTERNATIVE
CANDIDATE PROBLEM. AS TO THE PROBLEM OF CERTAIN NATIONS
INSISTING ON A SHAPE ROC PRIOR TO GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT
THE NATO AEW SYSTEM, THE USA HAS NO SOLUTIONS BEYOND
URGING RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH DOCUMENTATION. WE ARE
SUPPORTING THESE SHAPE ACTIVITIES THROUGH ALL CHANNELS
OPEN TO US UNQUOTE.

18. REF PARA G. DELETE LAST SENTENCE (INCLUDING
TERMS) AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING: USE OF THE
FOLLOWING TERMS WOULD AVOID FURTHER CONFUSION: AEW - AN
AIRBORN RADAR SYSTEM (NO CONTROL OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT;
CONTROL DONE FROM GROUND-BASED TACTICAL AIR CONTROL
SYSTEM)

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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